

WHEN FINES ARE SENT TO COLLECTIONS

When court fines are not paid in the time required by the court, they are usually referred to a collection agency.

Collection agencies add a large fee (often 30-50%) to the fine and charge interest. The fine increases over time as interest accumulates. Having fines in collections also causes your credit rating to decline.

The Department of Licensing (DOL) is notified of fines that are unpaid on traffic infractions and criminal traffic offenses. This is called an "FTA." This failure to pay the fine or "FTA" will cause your driver's license to be suspended. Driving on a suspended license is a criminal offense.

The only way to reinstate a license that is suspended ***due to unpaid fines*** (a license may be suspended for another reason) is to contact the collection agency/agencies and pay the entire fine or begin to make payments. Starting a payment plan will release the "FTA" and allow the DOL to reinstate your license.

When fines are neglected on multiple traffic infractions and criminal offenses, it can become a large and difficult problem. If your license is suspended due to unpaid traffic fines, you must have the "FTA" released in *each* case to obtain your driver's license back.

Once fines are addressed, you must go to DOL to have your license properly reissued.



BAINBRIDGE ISLAND MUNICIPAL COURT

Mailing address: PO Box 151
Rolling Bay, WA 98061

Location address: 10255 NE Valley Road
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Phone: 206-842-5641

Fax: 206-842-0316

Website: www.bainbridgewa.gov

Email: court@banbridgewa.gov

COLLECTION AGENCIES

**PAYING OFF LEGAL DEBT IN COLLECTIONS AND
REINSTATING YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE**

This brochure is intended to give you the information to start paying off your fines and reinstate your driver's license.

WHERE TO START

1. Obtain a list of all your outstanding legal financial debts. The Bainbridge Island Court Clerk is willing to provide a print out for you at no charge. This will list your case numbers, what court the case is in and the amount of the outstanding debt in each court (before the debt was sent to collections).
2. Contact the collection agency to find out what fines the agency has. You may want to check with the previous collection agency about fines owed if the court has a new collection agency. If you have multiple fines in different agencies, you must contact each agency about setting up a payment plan so that the FTA can be released. A list of the common local agencies has been provided. You may need to contact individual courts to find out which collection agency your fine has been referred to.
3. If your fine has not been referred to a collection agency yet, you must contact the court where the fine was imposed and find out possible arrangements to make payments and have the FTA released. Each court may have different policies and procedures.
4. Once all fines are paid or set up on a payment plan, go to your local DOL to find out what is needed to get your license properly reissued.

COLLECTION AGENCIES USED BY SELECT COURTS

- Bainbridge Island Municipal Court
AllianceOne
- Bremerton Municipal Court
AllianceOne
- Port Orchard Municipal Court
AllianceOne
- Poulsbo Municipal Court
AllianceOne
- Kitsap County District Court
Dynamic
- Kitsap County Superior Court
Dynamic
- Seattle Municipal Court
Harris & Harris
Evergreen Professional Recoveries
- King County District Court
Transworld Systems, Inc. (TSI)
- Pierce County District Court
Transworld Systems, Inc. (TSI)

ALLIANCEONE

6565 Kimball Drive Ste #200
PO Box 2449
Gig Harbor, WA 98335
1-800-456-8838

DYNAMIC COLLECTION AGENCY

1-800-464-3457

HARRIS & HARRIS

Pre-collection: 1-866-645-4480
Collections **(last name start w/A-O)**
1-855-853-2590

EVERGREEN PROFESSIONAL RECOVERIES (last name start w/P-Z)

1-800-241-1305 ext. 2

TRANSWORLD SYSTEMS, INC. (TSI)

1-800-331-8019

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

Various services are available online at **www.dol.wa.gov**. 1-360-902-3900

- ✓ Learn how to reinstate your license
- ✓ Change your driver license/ID card address

CREDIT COUNSELING RESOURCES

- **National Foundation for Credit Counseling**
1-800-388-2227
www.nfcc.org
- **The Assoc. of Independent Consumer Credit Counseling Agencies**
www.aiccca.org
American Financial Solutions
500 Pacific Ave, Suite 550
Bremerton, WA 98337
1-888-282-5844
<http://www.myfinancialgoals.org/>
- Free online education
- Non-profit financial education and consumer credit counseling agency